



Advisory

From: Johnny Diloné, 602-506-6611
Date: 1/27/2011
Re: Unapproved coloring used in meat products

Warning: Unapproved Food Additive in Meat Products

Maricopa County Environmental Services warns carnicerías/meat markets to immediately discard these and use products with FDA-approved food additives

As a result of a recent inspection conducted at a local carnicería, a Maricopa County Environmental Services inspector discovered that the establishment was purchasing an unapproved food additive from a local distributor and was using it on raw pork and beef products including chorizo and marinated meat.

The unapproved food additive, Cemix, was traced to a local distributor and it was further revealed other local carnicerías/meat markets were also using this product. The product is known to be used for industrial colorant for concrete.

Our department's inspectors have been surveying more locations to try to isolate products with this unapproved food additive, and retailers should make sure that they are using, preparing and selling only products with FDA approved food additives.

At the same time, establishments should make their consumers aware of this situation and of the importance of immediately discarding any product that may contain this unapproved food additive.

In the meantime, this is a multi-state on-going investigation with the assistance of other state and federal agencies.

If your establishments have further questions, please contact the Environmental Related Illness (ERI) team with the Maricopa County Environmental Services at (602) 506-0002, or visit <http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc/>.